

Claims

1. Process for generating glucosamine from plants wherein fresh plants or plant extract
5 are dried at a temperature below 110°C, preferably 92°C or below for less than one week, preferably between 5 and 50 h.
2. process according to claim 1 wherein the plant is at least one of the genus Cichorium, Daucus, Helianthus and/or Beta
10
3. Product obtainable by the process of claims 1 or 2.
4. Use of glucosamine from plant origin generated through the drying process of claims 1 or 2 in the manufacture of a medicine for the prevention, treatment and / or
15 alleviation of metabolic disorders of the osteo-articular tissues and/or the maintenance of joint health in mammals.
5. Use of a glucosamine according to claim 4 wherein the metabolic disorders are arthritis, osteoarthritis, and associated disorders.
20
6. Use of glucosamine according to claim 4 or claim 5 to improve mobility and/or quality of life of a mammal.
7. Use of glucosamine from plant origin generated through the drying process of claims 4 or 5 in the manufacture of a cosmetic composition to improve skin quality, and
25 prevention or restoration of age-related alterations of skin is related to the exfoliation of the skin.
8. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition containing glucosamine
30 generated from plant materials through a drying process.

9. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claim 8 wherein the composition contains as an active ingredient an effective amount of at least one plant raw material selected and processed for its content in glucosamine, or plant
5 extract, or pure glucosamine derived from the said plant raw material or a mixture of glucosamine and other compounds derived from the said plant raw material.
10. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claim 8 and 9 wherein the composition contains as an active ingredient at least one plant or derived-
10 plant extract having at least 150mg glucosamine/kg dry weight of plant material, preferably above 300 mg/kg dry matter, and most preferably above 500mg kg dry matter.
11. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claim 8 to 10
15 wherein the plant belongs to the genus *Cichorium*, *Daucus*, *Helianthus* and/or *Beta*.
12. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claim 8 to 11 wherein the plants are Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), carrot (*Daucus carota*), Jerusalem artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosum*), and/or beet (*Beta vulgaris*)
20
13. Orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claims 8 to 12 wherein glucosamine is in form of free glucosamine.
14. An orally ingestible composition or cosmetic composition according to claims 3 to
25 13 in the form, food products, beverages, nutritional supplements, medicines, pills, tablets, nutritionally complete diets, gels, ointments, salves, lotions, sprays, bandages, creams, balms, milks or foaming products.
15. A skin or hair care product comprising the composition according to claim 3 or 8.
30